



y satisfies a relationship of $0 < y < 1$.

REMARKS

In response to the outstanding Office Action, Applicants have cancelled claims 2 and 3 without prejudice, and have amended claim 1 so as to include all of the limitations recited by claim 3, which is now cancelled. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, as claim 3 was indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent format, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1, as amended, is in condition for allowance.

With regard to the comments set forth in paragraph 8 of the Office Action, it is noted that the Examiner is correct that the patent number set forth in the PTO-1449 filed on April 18, 2000 for the Matsuo reference was incorrect. As pointed out by the Examiner, the correct number is USP No. 5,741,628. Applicants thank the Examiner for identifying this inadvertent error. However, it is also respectfully requested that the Examiner provide an initialed copy of the PTO-1449 form filed along with the Information Disclosure Statement on April 18, 2000 to the Applicants so that the Applicants can verify that the cited prior art set forth in the PTO-1449 form will be of record in the instant application. A copy of the PTO-1449 form, which corrects the patent number corresponding to the Matsuo reference, is enclosed herewith for the convenience of the Examiner.

Having fully responded to all matters raised in the Office Action, Applicants submit that all claims are in condition for allowance, an indication for which is

respectfully solicited.

If there are any outstanding issues that might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is requested to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number shown below.


Respectfully submitted,

McDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY

Date:

1/23/02

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